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Diocese of Daet Circular Re. Former Priest Efren Avenido

🕒 December 25, 2017 📁 News

Efren Avenido, former priest from the Diocese of Daet, who has been officially dismissed by the Catholic Church last March 2017 for sexual abuse of minors has been known to celebrate sacraments in the Archdiocese of Manila. Archbishop Gilbert Garcera, while he was still Bishop of Daet, has issued a circular on October 27, 2011 informing the public of the dismissal of Fathers Efren Avenido and Roque Bacayo. This recent circular is being published due to more recent complaints about Efren Avenido.

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DIOCESE OF DAET
CHANCERY OFFICE

Diocesan House, Diocesan Complex
Brgy. Gahonon, Daet, Camarines Norte
PHILIPPINES 4600
Tel./Fax: +63(54) 440-1625/440-1474
daetchancery@yahoo.com

CIRCULAR
No. 12, Series of 2017

TO : ALL CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS OF THE DIOCESE OF DAET

RE : DECREE OF DISMISSAL FROM THE CLERICAL STATE



.....
This is to inform Your Reverences that our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has approved the **Dismissal from the Clerical State of EFREN AVENIDO as a penalty for acts of sexual abuse of minors**. The decree (Prot.

469/2016) was issued last March 2, 2017 by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith through its Prefect, Gerhard Cardinal Müller and Secretary, Archbishop Luis Francisco Ladaria, SJ. He acknowledged receipt of the same decree last Sunday, November 19, 2017.

This means former priest Efren Avenido is no longer bound to the duties and obligations he incurred upon ordination to the priesthood in 2005, and he no longer has the rights of a cleric under Church law. As a result, he can no longer refer to himself as "reverend," and "father." Thus, any ceremonies — baptisms, weddings, confessions, and the anointing of the sick — performed by former priest Efren Avenido, are not legitimate sacraments for Catholics and would not be recognized by the Catholic Church.

You are kindly requested to disseminate this information to the lay faithful under your care by posting this document in your barangay chapels and other Church associated buildings and institutions.

Given on this 24th day of November, in the year of our Lord 2017, at the Chancery Office, Diocesan House, Diocesan Compound, Gahonon, Daet, Camarines Norte, Philippines.

In Christ; ✍

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